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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/899,915	07/09/2001	Simon Tam	110032	4511
25944	7590	05/18/2004	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			LIANG, REGINA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2674	18

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/899,915

Applicant(s)

TAM, SIMON

Examiner

Regina Liang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment filed 4/13/04.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4,5,7,10-14,27,29-34,36 and 38-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 39-43 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 4,5,7,10-14,27,29-34,36 and 38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12.15
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. Claims 12, 34, 36, 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kim et al (US. PAT. NO. 6,535,185 hereinafter Kim).

As to claims 12 and 34, Fig. 2A Kim discloses a circuit for controlling a current supply to an EL (OEL), comprising providing a current path during a programming stage (the stage for charging the capacitor Cch), the current path connecting to a current sink through a data line (e.g., see Fig.2C, col. 5, lines 24-27, and line 57 to col. 6, line 19), providing a current path during a reproduction stage (the stage for driving the OEL), the current path passing through the EL (e.g., see Fig. 2D, and col. 6, line 20-29).

As to claims 36, 38, Kim teaches determining a gate voltage (40) of the transistor (Q2) by flowing a data current from a voltage supply (Vdd) to a current sink (10) through the transistor and a data line (see Fig. 2C, col. 5, lines 24-27, and line 57 to col. 6, line 19), and providing a driving current to the current driven element, the driving current corresponding to the gate voltage determined according to the data current (e.g., see Fig. 2D, and col. 6, line 20-29).

3. Claims 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 14, 27, 29-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dawson (US. PAT. NO. 6,229,506 hereinafter Dawson)

As to claims 4, 11, 27, 32, Fig. 3 of Dawson discloses a driver circuit to drive a pixel of an electroluminescent element (OLED), the circuit comprising a transistor (P1) connected so as

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to operatively control a current supplied the OLED, a first switching device (e.g., P4) connected so as to establish a current path through the transistor during a programming stage (the stage for charging the capacitor Cc, see col. 4, line 60 to col. 5, line 21 for example), a second switching device (e.g., P2) connected so as to establish a current path through the transistor and the OLED during a reproduction stage (the stage for driving the OLED), the first switching device being connected such that the current path does not pass through the OLED during the programming stage (P2 is off when charging the Cc), the first and second switching devices being controlled by respective control signals supplied from separate signal lines (P3, P4 are controlled by signal lines 330 and 320, P2 is controlled by signal line 340).

As to claims 5, 7, Fig. 3 of Dawson teaches a third switching device (P3) as claimed.

As to claim 10, Dawson teaches the circuit is implemented with polysilicon TFT (col. 2, lines 57-59).

As to claims 13, 14, 33, Dawson teaches the electroluminescent display device comprising driver circuit and an electronic apparatus incorporating the electroluminescent display device.

As to claim 29, Dawson teaches the transistor is a p-channel TFT.

As to claim 30, col. 4, lines 16-18 of Dawson teaches the switching devices comprising all n-channel TFT.

As to claim 31, Dawson teaches the first current path and the second current path include a transistor (P1 in Fig. 3).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 39-43 are allowed.

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Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 4, 5, 7, 11-14, 27, 29-34, 36, 38 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion


6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Regina Liang whose telephone number is (703) 305-4719. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on (703) 305-4709. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


REGINA LIANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2674

RL
5/14/04